

To the Chairman and Members of the  
 SEDGEFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.



Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present an  
 interim report for the year 1943.

General Statistics.

Area: 39,212 acres.  
 Population: 32,289.  
 Number of inhabited houses, Dec. 31st. 1943: 8,897.  
 Rateable Value: £120,250.  
 Sum represented by a penny rate: £455: 5 : 6d.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

LIVE BIRTHS.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	267	287	554
Illegitimate	<u>16</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>28</u>
	<u>283</u>	<u>299</u>	<u>582</u>

STILL BIRTHS.

Legitimate	8	5	13
Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>14</u>

DEATHS.

182 158 340

Birth Rate: 18.45  
 Death Rate: All causes 10.53  
 Death of infants under one year of age: 38  
 Death-rate per 1,000 births: Legitimate 63.57  
 Illegitimate 1.72  
 Infantile Mortality Rate: 63.77

Causes of Death.

	Males.	Females.
All causes	182	158
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	-	-
Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Diphtheria	5	2
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	4	4
Other Tuberculosis diseases	5	3
Syphilitic diseases	1	-
Influenza	3	3
Measles	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis, Polioencephalitis	-	-
Acute infectious encephalitis	-	1

Causes of Death - continued -	Males	Females
Cancer of buccal cavity;(oesophagus-M)(uterus-F)	2	2
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	4	7
Cancer of breast	1	2
Cancer of all other sites	13	12
Diabetes	1	4
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	19	11
Heart disease	40	45
Other disease of circulatory system	5	2
Bronchitis	13	16
Pneumonia	14	6
Other respiratory disease	1	2
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	1
Diarrhoea under 2 years	2	-
Appendicitis	-	1
Other digestive diseases	3	4
Nephritis	2	3
Puerperal and post-abortion. sepsis	-	-
Other maternal causes	-	-
Premature birth	2	5
Congenital malformation, birth injuries	10	4
Suicide	1	-
Road traffic accidents	1	1
Other violent causes	8	2
All other causes	20	14

### Laboratory Work.

The undermentioned table shows the use made of it during the year -

<u>Bacteriological Examination</u> <u>for</u>				Positive	Negative	Total
Tubercle Bacillus	...	...		11	98	109
Diphthéria Bacillus	...	...		37	177	214
Typhoid Bacillus	...	...		-	-	-
Meningococcus	...	...		-	-	-
Hæmolytic Streptococci	...	...		-	-	-
				48	275	323

The following figures represent the work carried out by the Local Authority during the year;-

Throat swabs taken	...	...	...	440
Nasal Swabs taken	...	...	...	43
Prophylactic Injections of Diphtheria Anti-toxin given	...	...	...	52
Virulence Tests	...	...	...	51

### Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases

#### SCARLET FEVER

65 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during 1943 as against 33 for 1942

62 cases were admitted to hospital and all recovered.

#### DIPHTHERIA

During 1943, 83 cases of Diphtheria were notified as against 27 in 1942, 7 deaths occurred.

#### CONTROL OF INFECTION

All cases were notified by telephone and removed without delay to your hospital.

As in the past nine years the throats of all 'contacts' were swabbed in order to detect any 'carriers' and injections of anti-toxin offered free of charge.

52 injections of anti-toxin were given to Diphtheria 'contacts' mainly children, 440 throat swabs, and 43 nasal swabs taken.



BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY  
AND MATERNAL DEATH RATES in the year 1948.

				ENGLAND AND WALES.	SEDGEFIELD RURAL DISTRICT.
				Rates per 1,000 Population	
BIRTHS:-					
Live	...	...	...	16.5	18.02
Still	...	...	...	0.51	0.43
DEATHS:-					
All causes	...	...	...	12.1	10.53
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers				0.00	0.00
Small-pox	...	...	...	-	0.00
Measles	...	...	...	0.02	0.06
Scarlet Fever		...	...	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough		...	...	0.03	0.00
Diphtheria	...	...	...	0.03	0.21
Influenza	...	...	...	0.37	0.18
				Rates per 1,000 Live Births	
Deaths under 1 year of age				49	65.30
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age				5.3	3.44
MATERNAL MORTALITY:-					
Puerperal Infection		...		Not	0.00
Others		...	...	available	0.00
Total		...	...		0.00
				Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still)	
MATERNAL MORTALITY:-					
Puerperal Infection		...		0.39	0.00
Others		...	...	1.45	0.00
Total		...	...	-	0.00

Control of Infection - continued -

All 'carriers' discovered were warned as to their condition and 'swabbed' until free from infection.

DIPHTHERIA PROPHYLAXIS.

Under a Ministry of Health Circular (Autumn, 1940) asking Local Authorities to secure the immunisation of as many children as possible, in order to meet the increased risks which inevitably arise out of wartime conditions, this Council prepared a scheme whereby children of and under school age could be immunised (free of any charge to the parents) by the Medical Practitioners of the Area at clinics set up in the schools and other suitable premises within the district.

Under this scheme, which commenced in August 1941, 736 children between the ages of 1 and 15 years completed the full course of treatment during 1943.

Since the commencement of the scheme, the total number of children who had completed the full course of treatment at the 31st. December, 1943, was 5,114.

THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

One hundred and seventy two cases were admitted to your Isolation Hospital during 1943, as against 92 in 1942.

Admissions were as follows :-

(a) From Sedgefield Rural District -

63 cases Scarlet Fever

88 " Diphtheria

6 " Meningitis

1 " Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)

2 " German Measles

2 " Whooping Cough

6 " Influenzal Pneumonia

1 " Idiopathic Epilepsy.

The Isolation Hospital - continued -

(b) Non-civilians -

3 cases of Diphtheria.

CANCER.

During 1943, Cancer was given as the cause of death in 43 cases.

NOTIFICATION OF TUBERCULOSIS.

This continues to be satisfactory. No cases of wilful neglect to notify occurred during the year. There were 16 deaths from all forms of tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS ( New Cases and Mortality during 1943).

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES.				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Under 1 yr.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
1 to 5	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1
5 - 10	-	-	4	3	-	-	1	-
10 - 15	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 20	-	2	1	1	-	-	2	-
20 - 25	3	4	1	1	1	1	-	1
25 - 35	7	6	-	-	2	1	1	1
35 - 45	-	7	-	-	1	2	-	-
45 - 55	2	5	-	1	-	-	-	-
55 - 65	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and Upwards.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	15	27	7	8	4	4	5	3
	42		15		8		8	
	57				16			

Of the above New Cases, 30 respiratory and 1 non-respiratory case were notified from the Durham County Mental Hospital, leaving 26 new cases notified from the remainder of the district.



SUMMARY OF WORK  
Done in the Sanitary Inspector's Department during the Year 1943.

(1) PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS	Number of Informal written notices by Inspector	Number of Formal Notices by Order of Authority	Number of Nuisances abated after Notice
Dwelling Houses :-			
Foul conditions	3	-	3
Structural Defects	165	3	142
Overcrowding	14	-	7
Lodging Houses	-	-	-
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops	24	-	24
Bakehouses	-	-	-
Slaughter Houses	-	-	-
Ashpits and Privies	-	-	-
Deposits of Refuse & Manure	20	-	20
Water Closets	48	-	45
Defective Yard Paving	3	-	3
House Drainage	107	-	101
Water supply	1	-	1
Pigsties	7	-	7
Animals improperly kept	-	-	-
Other Nuisances	80	1	77
	472	4	430

(2) PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE:-

Houses disinfected after infectious disease	161
Schools           "           "           "           "	3

Note  
Civilian Notifications  
only.

	At all ages	Age Groups												Total Deaths	Hosp	Home
		Under one year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over			
Scarlet Fever	65	-	-	1	7	6	34	12	3	2	-	-	-	-	62	3
Diphtheria	83	-	1	1	2	3	29	14	20	10	2	1	-	7	82	1
Erysipelas	12	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	6	3	-	-	12
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	3	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	-
Dysentery	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	6	3	1	-	2	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anterior Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia (Primary & Influenza)	38	1	1	-	2	-	1	2	4	5	9	9	4	-	14	24
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	364	9	24	48	65	62	143	9	2	2	-	-	-	2	-	364
Whooping Cough	34	6	16	13	15	10	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	82
TOTAL	676	24	43	63	91	82	231	37	33	28	17	19	8	9	183	493



Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen, in concluding my report I desire to thank all members of the Council and their staff for the valuable help and encouragement they have offered me throughout the year.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

J.C.V. HINDHAUGH,

Medical Officer of Health.

